EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the State, as declared in Section 1 of Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Quality education is also one of the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. It is "the key to prosperity and opens a world of opportunities, making it possible for each of us to contribute to a progressive, healthy society."

However, the declining condition of our education is confirmed by our standing in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2018 results where the Philippines was either the last or second to last in the assessments for Reading, Science and Math. PISA is part of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that measures not only the knowledge and skills of 15-year old students, but also how these are applied in real-life situations.

The quality of knowledge and skills of teachers is significant in shaping the minds of our learners. Garbage in, garbage out. It is imperative to ensure that the teachers
deployed to instruct and educate our learners have the vital and necessary skills that would challenge our students.

The proposed measure includes the participation of the Department of Education (DepEd) and Commission of Higher Education (CHED) in formulating the questions for the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET). As the main recipient and future employer of the LET passers, DepEd should ensure that the Philippine Professional Standards for Teachers are manifested in the examination. CHEd should guarantee that the minimum pre-service curricula are being followed and implemented by the Teacher Education Institutions.

Requiring a refresher course for examinees who failed for three consecutive years can assist them in determining the areas where they need to acquire more knowledge while keeping them updated with the curricula, if any.

Review and assessment of the LET by non-partisan third-party organization is also necessary to ascertain and verify the effectiveness of the examination in producing professional teachers who possess the knowledge and wisdom needed for the delivery of quality education to all learners.

For these reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ROMAN T. ROMULO
Lone District of Pasig City
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

House Bill No. 8046  

Introduced by Representative Roman T. Romulo  

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF RA7836,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS PHILIPPINE TEACHERS PROFESSIONALIZATION  
ACT OF 1994, AS AMENDED BY RA 9293.  

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines  
in Congress assembled:  

SECTION. 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7836, otherwise known as the "Philippine  
Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994," as amended by Republic Act No. 9293, is  
hereby amended to read as follows:  

"SEC. 5. Creation and Composition of the Board. – There is  
hereby created under this Act a Board for Professional  
Teachers, hereinafter called the Board, a collegial body under  
the general supervision and administrative control of the  
Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as  
the Commission, composed of the Secretary of the  
Department of Education (DepEd) or an Undersecretary  
of DepEd, and the Chairman of the Commission on  
Higher Education (CHED) or a Commissioner of the  
CHED, as ex-officio members, and five (5) members who  
shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from  
among the recommendees chosen by the Commission. The  
recommendees shall be chosen from the list of nominees
selected by the accredited association of teachers, who duly possess all the qualifications prescribed in Section 8 of this Act.

"The chairman and the vice-chairman of the Board shall be appointed from these five (5) members by the President: Provided, That the members of the first Board appointed under this Act shall be automatically registered as professional teachers and issued with the certificate of registration and professional license upon payment of the fees for examination, registration, and other fees prescribed by the Commission."

× × ×

SECTION. 2. A new Section 14-A is hereby inserted after Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7836, as amended by Republic Act No. 9293, to read as follows:

"SEC. 14-A. Review and Assessment of Questions for Licensure Examination for Teachers. — Every two (2) years, the Board shall appoint a Technical Panel who shall review the questions for the Licensure Examination for Teachers and assess its effectiveness in the determination of the possession of knowledge and readiness of an applicant to be admitted to the roll of Professional Teachers.

"The Technical Panel shall be composed of the following:
1. Director of the Bureau of Curriculum Development, DepEd;
2. Director of the Bureau of Education Assessment, DepED;
3. Executive Director of Teacher Education Council;
4. A representative of CHED Technical Panel for Teacher Education;
5. A representative of the integrated organization of professional teachers recognized by the Board of Professional Teachers."

SECTION. 3. A new Section 16-A is hereby inserted after Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7836, as amended by Republic Act No. 9293, to read as follows:

"SEC. 16-A. Failing applicants to take refresher course. — Applicants who have failed in the Licensure
Examination for Teachers for three times shall be disqualified from taking another examination unless they show to the satisfaction of the Board that they have enrolled in and attended a refresher course in a recognized Teacher Education Institution.

"The head of the Teacher Education Institution where the applicants attended the refresher course shall certify under oath that the applicants have regularly attended classes and passed the assessments given during the refresher course."

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. – Should any provision of this Act be declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and subsisting.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen days following its publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,